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Information Regarding CIA Called So Much Warmed Over Hash

WASHINGTON NRS — Informed newsmen here say that Ramparts magazine and its recent headline-coping exposure of links between the CIA and a number of tax exempt Foundations is so much warmed-over hash. The information has been public knowledge for more than two years.

A mid-west journalist notes that, on September 1, 1964, newspapers like the Illinois State Journal headlined an associated press dispatch: CIA Secret Channel Revealed. The dispatch revealed that Congressman Wright Patman (D-Texas), chairman of the House Small Business Subcommittee, had been carrying on an investigation of the now much-in-the-news, J. M. Kaplan Fund. Kaplan, according to Congressman Patman, as president and treasurer of the Fund — had been waging "a number of battles" to take over various small business firms, "using charitable funds set up and dominated by

him" to do so.

It was during this investigation that CIA officials went to Patman's committee for the first time with information concerning the intelligence agency's use of the Kaplan Fund. Patman told the press that additional foundations contributing to the Kaplan Fund included Borden Trust, Price Fund, Edsel Fund, Beacon Fund, and the Kentfield Fund.

Patman's House committee met with CIA and Internal Revenue officials behind closed doors, at the time, to discuss the Fund's tax exempt status. Newsmen were told later that the subcommittee would not pursue the CIA aspects of the Kaplan Fund matter further.

"Secret Channels"

Other 1964 sources revealed additional information concerning Kaplan-Fund-CIA activities. For example, an independent research conducted by Georgetown University historian, Dr. Charles Callan Tansill, for the Committee on Pan American Policy reported that "CIA funds, at least in part, were used to finance an ambitious propaganda organization promoted in 1959 by Romulo Betancourt and Jose Figueres under the name of the Institute of Political Education. Originally, Fidel Castro's 'Authentic Revolutionary Party' (Castro was its first secretary) was among the founders. The purpose of the 'Institute' apparently, was to brainwash the youth group in the

Caribbean countries and win them to the Leftist side."

Part of this story, Professor Tansill's research revealed, was divulged by former President Otilio Ulate of Costa Rica in an address delivered in 1962: "President Ulate, at that time, revealed that one Sascha Volman was in San Jose, with funds supplied by the J. M. Kaplan Foundation, conducting a School for Future Statesmen under the patronage of Figueres, Betancourt and Haya de la Torre, the leaders of the Latin American Leftist clique. Juan Bosch was a teacher at the School. Later, after Juan Bosch was elected President, Volman showed up in the Dominican Republic where he allegedly acted as the liaison between Bosch and the Kennedy Administration, as well as with friendly Senators like Hubert Humphrey and Wayne Morse."